

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended as follows: Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikethroughs~~ indicate deletions.

1. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid, open to the atmosphere, comprising:

a tubular housing closed at a first end thereof by a plate;

a series of tubular sections, received in a second end of said tubular housing opposite said first end thereof, telescopically arranged in said tubular housing, each tubular section having a piston head on a side of said first end with an opening for passage of a fluid under pressure through ~~in~~ successive areas enclosed between two successive piston heads; and

bore seals connected to said piston heads providing sealing walls between said successive areas where the fluid is present, on a side of said first end of said tubular housing relative to said bore seals;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel, surfaces of walls in the nitrided steel of the tubular sections being in contact with one another as the tubular sections are telescopically displaced as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, surface asperities of the surfaces providing formation of a film of the fluid on the sliding walls of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections.

2. (Previously presented) A telescopic hoist, open to the atmosphere, comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a series of actuatable tubular sections telescopically received in said housing from an open end thereof; each tubular section having a piston head with an opening, on a side of said open end, for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough; and

bore seal means between areas enclosed by two successive piston ends maintaining the fluid on said side of the open end;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel, surfaces of walls in the nitrided steel of the tubular sections being in contact with one another as the tubular sections are telescopically displaced as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, surface asperities of the surfaces providing formation of a film of the fluid on the sliding walls of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid under pressure, open to the atmosphere, comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a series of fluid pressure actuatable tubular sections telescopically received in said housing in an open side thereof; each said tubular section having a piston head with an inlet port for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough from said open side; and

bore seal means mounted in said piston heads on a side thereof facing said open side, maintaining said fluid on said side of said piston heads;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitride steel, a film of the fluid forming on asperities of walls of the tubular sections on a side thereof facing said open side as they are telescopically displaced under action of ~~as a result of introduction of~~ the fluid under pressure.

5. (Currently amended) A bore seal telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid under pressure, comprising:

a series of tubular sections; and

a tubular housing with an open end to receive said series of tubular sections, said tubular sections being telescopically arranged in said tubular housing;

wherein said series of tubular sections comprises an outermost tubular section and at least one inner tubular section, said outermost tubular section having a head provided with a hydraulic inlet port allowing a fluid to be introduced in a first area between said head and a piston head of said at least one inner tubular section, each one of said at least one inner tubular section having an opening allowing the fluid to be received in a second area enclosed between the piston head thereof and a piston head of a successive tubular section, each piston head being provided with a bore seal confining the fluid on a side thereof facing the open end of the tubular housing, said tubular sections being made in a nitrided steel, and, when the tubular sections are telescopically displaced ~~as a result of introduction of~~ under action of the fluid under pressure ~~through the hydraulic inlet port~~, a film of the fluid is formed, in a side of the bore seals facing the open end of the tubular housing, on sliding walls of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections due to a presence of surface asperities thereon.